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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

## AFFIRMATION OF PRIORITY CLAIM

Dear Sir:

Applicants hereby claim priority under 35 U.S.C. 119 based on the following prior foreign application filed in the following foreign country on the date indicated:

Country	Application No.	Date
Japan	2003-336243	September 26, 2003

A certified copy of the aforesaid Japanese Patent Application was received by the International Bureau July 29, 2004 during the pendency of International Application No. PCT/JP2004/006259. A copy of Form PCT/IB/304 is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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